1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1992-93	9778.00	7726.73	47934.00	41258.00	2999.00	3378.00
1993-94	15974.00	10873.59	65223.00	68524.00	4856.00	2221.70
1994-95	16232.00 (Provisional)	8346.98	70387.00	50731.00	5469.00	3840.30
1995-96	16218.24	6568.08 (upto Feb. '96)	73436.00	42763.00 (upto Feb. '96)	111000.00	44645.00 (upto Dec. '96)

National Old Age Penion Scheme in Maharashtra

462. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of old persons so far covered under the National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) in the State of Maharashtra, with the district-wise details thereof;

(b) the procedure followed in granting old age pension under the scheme, with details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to cover all the eligible old person in Maharashtra under the scheme; within a time frame; and

(d) if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) The number of beneficiaries to be covered in Maharashtra during 1995-96 under the National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) is 501700. This is the numerical ceiling for the State. However, the State sent proposals to cover 443217 persons during the year under the Scheme. The district-wise details are indicated in the Statement attached (*See* below).

(b) For purposes of claiming Central Assistance, the following criteria shall apply:—

(i) The age of applicant (male or female) shall be 65 years or higher.

(ii) The applicant must be destitute in the sense of having little or no regular means of subsistence from his/her own sources of income or through financial support from family members or other sources.

In order to determine destitution, the criteria, if any, currently in force in the State/Union Territory Governments may also be followed.

(iii) The amount of the old age pension will be Rs 75/- per month for purposes of claiming Central Assistance.

(c) and (d) The State Government is covering 443217 eligible persons during the year 1995-96 against the centrally fixed numerical ceiling of 501700. There is no intimation from the State as yet as to whether they will cover all eligible persons to the extent of Central ceiling in the coming year.

Statement

District-wise number of beneficiaries in Maharashtra under the National Old Age Pension Scheme

S.No.	Name of District	No. of Beneficiaries
1.	Bombay	29,127
2.	Thane	6,370
3.	Raigad	8,759
4.	Ratnagiri	7,956
5.	Sindhudurg	4,107
6.	Nasik	7,159
7.	Ahmednagar	13,418
8.	Dhule	7,733
9.	Jalgaon	14,247
10.	Pune	11,809
11.	Solapur	17,589
12.	Satara	8,093
13.	Sangli	6,094
14.	Kolhapur	11.033
15.	Aurangabad	20,989
16.	Parbhani	26,761
17.	Nanded	26,0.

S. No.	*Name of District*	*No. of Beneficiaries*
18.	Osmanabad	7,837
19.	Latur	20,487
20.	Beed	13,652
21.	Jaina	12,408
22.	Amravati	14,190
23.	Akola	19,280
24.	Yeotmal	20,832
25.	Buldhana	13,953
26.	Nagpur	51,941
27	Wardha	7,666
28.	Chandrapur	7,148
29.	Gaochiroli	2,117
30.	Bhandara	11,351
31.	Bombay (B.S.D.)	13,582
	Total	4,43,217

Private Participation in Mining Sector

463. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase private participation in Mining Sector;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme prepared in this regard; and

(c) whether Government also propose to allocate more funds for modernisation work of the mines situated in Rajasthan and Orissa States; if so, the amount proposed during 1995-96 and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) and (b) In order to increase private participation in mining sector; thirteen minerals i.e. iron ore, manganese, chrome, sulp gold, diamond, copper, lead, zinc molybdenum, tungsten, nickel and platinum group of minerals have been dereserved for exploitation by private sector in the New National Mineral Policy of 1993. Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act and Rules framed thereunder have also been amended to encourage private sector participation.

(c) Central Government do not allocate funds for moderanisation work of priavte sector mines. However, Central Government has established mineral processing laboratories at Ajmer, Bangalore, and Nagpur for Research and Development work in mineral processing and beneficiation and these facilities are available to all mines owners.

Inclusion of coconut in the schedule of oilseeds

464. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that coconut is included in the schedule of oil seeds;

(b) if so, the reasons for denying the coconut growers facilities extended to other oil seeds;

(c) the incentives/facilities given to oil seeds cultivators; and

(d) the incentives/facilities given to coconut growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN): (a) and (b) Government of India declared coconut as an oilseed of three origin in October, 1990, since it is a perennial plantation crop. While declaring coconut as an oilseed of tree origin, it was also decided that matters relating to coconut development should continue to be dealt by Coconut Development Board and not by Technology Mission on Oilseeds.

(c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha as Annexure, [*See* Appendix 176 Annexure No. 27.]

(c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha as Annexure, [*See* Appendix 176 Annexure No. 78.]